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APPLICATION NO.		FILING DATE		FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/788,540 02/21/2001 21171 7590 04/20/2006		02/21/2001		Shigeru Fujita	1484.1004	5606
			EXAMINER			
	STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700				EL HADY, NABIL M	
1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W.			ENUE, N.W.		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
WASHINGTON, DC 20005					2152	

DATE MAILED: 04/20/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

			Application No.	Applicant(s)				
	OSC A Adia - Oumana m		09/788,540	FUJITA, SHIGERU				
	Office Action Summary		Examiner	Art Unit				
			Nabil M. El-Hady	2152				
Period fo	The MAILING DATE of this communic or Reply	cation appe	ars on the cover sheet with the co	orrespondence address				
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. - Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).								
Status								
1)⊠) Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>17 March 2006</u> .							
			action is non-final.					
'=	Since this application is in condition for	-		secution as to the merits is				
-	closed in accordance with the practice under <i>Ex parte Quayle</i> , 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.							
Dispositi	ion of Claims			•				
4)🖂	Claim(s) 1 and 3-9 is/are pending in the	he applicat	tion.					
· ·	4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration.							
	Claim(s) is/are allowed.							
6)⊠	Claim(s) 1 and 3-9 is/are rejected.							
	Claim(s) is/are objected to.							
8)□	Claim(s) are subject to restriction	ion and/or	election requirement.					
Applicati	ion Papers							
9)[The specification is objected to by the	Examiner.	,					
	The drawing(s) filed on is/are: a			xaminer.				
	Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).							
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).								
	The oath or declaration is objected to b			• •				
	under 35 U.S.C. § 119							
_	12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) All b) Some * c) None of:							
	1. Certified copies of the priority do	ocuments	have been received.					
			have been received in Applicatio	on No				
	3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage							
	application from the International			_				
* S	* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.							
Attachment	t(s)							
1) Notice	e of References Cited (PTO-892)		4) 🔲 Interview Summary (I	PTO-413)				
2) Notice	e of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTC	O-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date	e				
	nation Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PT r No(s)/Mail Date	TO/SB/08)	5) Notice of Informal Pa 6) Other:	tent Application (PTO-152)				

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1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37

2. Claims 1 and 3-9 are pending in this application.

CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 2/2/2006 has been entered.

3. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

The following phrases are not clearly understood, and rendering the corresponding claims vague or indefinite:

- a) "receive input-output control ... from a server device driver and a server virtual I/O port", claim 4, lines 2-3. It is not clearly understood if the control is initiated from the device diver from the I/O port, from both, or from the device driver and communicated through the I/O port.
- b) "transmit a client-side I/O device event to the server virtual I/O port", claim 4, lines 7-8. It is not clearly understood if the event is transmitted to the virtual I/O port or to the device driver through the virtual I/O port.

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4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless

- (b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.
- 5. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 6. Claims 1, 3-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over Morgan et al. (5,220,674), hereinafter "Morgan".
- As to claims 1, 3, 4, and 9, Morgan discloses a client/server system (Fig. 1) comprising a server (col. 3, lines 27-29) comprising software to generate operating instructions for a client-side I/O device (col. 3, lines 17-19, and Fig. 1), a device driver at the server (50, Fig. 1), a virtual I/O port to function at the server as client-side I/O port interface to the device driver (col. 3, lines 42-45, Fig. 1, Fig. 3, and Fig. 4), a client (col. 3, lines 42-44, and Fig. 10) communicably connectable with the server, a client-side device handler (Fig. 10), and a client-side I/O port (Fig. 10).

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8. As to claim 5, Morgan discloses at least one client-side I/O port, which is coupled to the

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client-side I/O device, and which is controlled by the device driver in the server (col. 3, lines 27-

45; and Fig. 1)

9. As to claim 6, Morgan does not specifically disclose a bar code reader as the I/O

device. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made that an I/O device may be any type of device that facilities input from the

user and output to the user. The concept of controlling such device from a server as discloses

by Morgan is not limited to a printer device and may be applied to any other I/O device.

Moreover, both the concept and the advantages of utilizing a bar code reader as an I/O device

is well known in the art. It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time

the invention was made to modify the teachings of Morgan to include a bar code reader in order

to enhance and make it easier for slot machine users to input/ output certain types of products

to the system.

10. As to claim 7, Morgan discloses the client/server system, wherein the client and server

communicate via a LAN (abstract).

11. As to claim 8, Morgan does not disclose the client and server communicate via the

WWW. However, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the

invention was made that nothing in the design of Morgan's system prevent that server of Fig. 1

be connected to the client printers of Fig. 1 via WWW according to what is known in the art at

the time of the invention.

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12. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1, 3-9 have been considered but are moot

in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

13. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner

should be directed to Nabil M. El-Hady whose telephone number is (571) 272-3963. The

examiner can normally be reached on 9:00 - 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on (571) 272-3913. The fax phone

number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private

PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

April 16, 2006

Nabil El-Hady, Ph.D, M.B.A.

Primary Examiner

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